Minutes

....OF THE....

16th Annual Session

.....OF THE.....

Mt. Pleasant Primitive Baptist Association

.....CONVENED WITH.....

Mt. PISGAH CHURCH,

Bulloch County, Georgia,

OCTOBER, 23, 24 and 25, 1903.

NEWS PRINT, Statesboro, Ga.

MINUTES

Of the Sixteenth Annual Session of the Mt. Pleasant Primitive Baptist Association held with the Mt. Pisgah church, Bulloch county Ga., on Friday Oct. 23, 24, 25, 1903.

1. Introductory sermon was preached by Elder M. Barner from 2nd Epistle of Paul to Tim. 2nd chapter 15 verse: "Study to show thyself approved unto God a workman that needeth not be ashamed, rightly dividing the world of truth." After this interesting discourse, thirty minutes recess was given.

2. After which the ministers and messengers assembled in the house, sang hymn 235, prayer by Elder A. B. Ross.

3. Called for and read letters from the several churches, all were represented and found generally in peace.

4. Re-organized the body by electing Elder A. Munlin Moderator and Elder W. Hodges Clerk.

5. Read the decorum

6. On motion adopted the order of business of the last session as the order for the present session.

7. Called for petitionary letters and found one from Powell Grove, Johnson county, Ga., which was received by the association, and the moderator gave the right hand of fellowship.

8. Invited visiting ministers and brethren to seats with us.

9. Called for correspondents—one from the Ocmulgee Association by the hands of Elders N. L. Lawrence and M. Barner, also one from the Alcova Association by the hands of Elders A. B. Ross and George Respess; the moderator extending the right hand of fellowship.

10. Appointed the following committee on preaching as follows: Bros. L. Kennedy, J. W. Watson, W. C. Dugger, R. L. Brown, and H. B. Davis

11. Called for report of committee on preaching, and reported as follows: Elder A. Eason to preach Saturday morning at 10 o'clock followed by Elder George Respess.

12. On motion, adjourned until Saturday morning at 10 o'clock.

13, Met Saturday morning in pursuance to adjournment, sang hymn 431, prayer by Elder J. B. Mosley after which the roll was called and found the delegates all present, and then the moderator announced the house in order for business, also renewed the invitation to brethren to seat with us.

14. Appointed the following committee on general meetings: Bros. W. Hodges, Jno. Parish and George Jackson.

15. Appointed the following brethren to write the corresponding letter: Bros. H. E. Smith and George Page.

16. Called for the report of the committee on General Meetings, They report, as follows: The first general meeting to convene with Zion Hill church, Tattnall county Ga., on Saturday before the 5th Sunday in May 1904. Second, with Saint Paul on Saturday before the 5th Sunday in July 1904.

17. On motion, agreed that the Association convene with the church at Eden, Tattnall county, Ga. on Friday before the 4th Sunday in October 1904, 2½ miles from Cobb station, three miles west from Corsica on the Stillmore Air Line R. R.

18. Called for circular letter which was read and received.

19. Appointed the following Elders as correspondents to the Ocmulgee Association: J. B. Mosley and A. Eason alternate which convenes with the church of Tuzia, Putnam County Ga., 8 miles west of Eatonton, Ga. on Friday before the 4th Sunday in September 1904; to the Alcovia Association, Elders W. Hodges and A. Munlin alternate, which convenes with the church of Shady Grove, Gwinnett county, 10 miles west of Hampton, Ga. on the G J & S R R, 7 miles south of Neecular, Ga. on the Seabord Air Line R R.

20. Appointed Elder W. Hodges to write the next circular letter.

21. On motion, agreed to have 250 copies of minutes printed and the clerk to superintend the printing and distribution of the same.

22. Called for contribution contributed to W. Hodges $6.75 and to J. B. Mosley $22 25 for messengers.

23. Then closed with hymn 619, prayer by Elder Daniel Cook. We hope to meet a goodly number of our brethren and sisters at our next Association which convenes with the church at Eden, Tattnall county Ga. on Friday before the Fourth Sunday in October 1904. We also thank the good Lord for His goodness He hath bestowed upon us during our session, and the kind hospitality that the good people of God showed toward us during our meeting. May God help us to continue in Love and Peace is the prayer of the unworthy servants.

Elder A. Munlin, Moderator
Elder W. Hodges, Clerk.

ORDER OF PREACHING FROM DAY TO DAY.

Elder A. Eason preached Saturday morning at 10 o'clock, from John 17: 1.--followed by Elder George Respess, from Luke 19: 10. P. M. Elder N. L. Lawrence preached from Isaiah 58: 1, followed by Elder Daniel Cook who preached from Eph. 5: 32

Sunday morning at 11 o'clock, Elder A. B. Ross preached from Matt. 24: 1, followed by Elder J. B. Mosley who preached from First Cor. 15: 23; closed by Elder M. Barner.

THE CIRCULAR LETTERS.

Dearly Beloved Brethren, composing the Mt. Pleasant Primitive Baptist Association: as you have appointed me at your last

session to write the circular, I hope it will be approved by the ministers and brethren, and is to be inserted in our minutes of 1903.

Dearly Beloved Brethren in the Lord—I call your attention to the 17th chapter of St. John, 2nd verse: "As thou hast given him power over all flesh that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him, and this is life eternal that they might know the only true God and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent. Therefore to him is to feel in our hearts that we love Him is to love one another; by this we know we are the children of God when love God and keep His commandments; 1st Epis. of John 2nd verse. So dear brethren love not the world, neither in tongue, but indeed and in truth, and when we walk in obedience to those things we will be happy; because He said if you know these shings, happy are ye if you do them.

Therefore Brethren, to do our whole duty as christians we will be happy. "He that has the son hath the witness in him; he that hath not the son, hath not the witness in him. For the children of God is as Solomon said: "But the path of the just is as a shining light that shines more and more unto perfect day. Therefore, Dearly Beloved Brethren, in a scattering way I have done the best I could. If you can receive this letter it will be well, if not lay it aside, and we will go on in love I hope,

Your servant in the Lord,

J. B. Mosley.

Corresponding Letter.

Dearly beloved brethren in the Lord:

Through tne great and tender mercies of our Heavenly Father, we have this grand privilege of meeting in an associate capacity to perform the business assigned us in peace.

We are very glad to say that all of our churches were represented and generally in peace with each other, and seem to be growing in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Dearly Beloved Brethren: Our correspondenee was not as full as we desired, but we were happy to meet our most appreciated brethren, Elders A B Ross and G Respess from the Alcovia association: Elders N L Lawrence and M. Barner from the Ocmulgee Association. And do pray for a continuance of the same in our future associations, and do pray to stand firm in the faith once delivered to the saints.

We send to your honorable bodies, as correspondents to your associations, Elder J B Moseley, to the Ocmulgee association, Elder A Eason, alternate; Elder W Hodges to the Alcovia Association and Elder A Munlin, alternate.

Our next association will convene with the church at Eden, Tattnall county, Ga., on Friday before the 4th Sunday in October, 1904, 2½ miles from Cobb station. 3 miles west from Corsica, Ga., on the Sillmore Air Line Railway

We are yours in the cause,

A Munlin, Mod. W Hodges, Clerk.

ORDAINED MINISTERS AND POST OFFICES.

A Munlin, Portal, Ga.	W Hodges, Statesboor, Ga.
A Eason, Quince, Ga.	A Jackson, Collins, Ga.
J B Moseley, Bartow, Ga.	D Cook, Bellville, Ga.

LICENTIATES

J W Watson	Summertown, Ga
James Kelsey	Metter, Ga
R L Brown	Bartow, Ga
H E Smith	Bartow, Ga

Church Statistics.

Churches:	County.	Messengers Names	Baptized	Received by Letter	Restored	Recommended	Expelled	Total	Money for Minutes	Money for Messengers	Meeting Days
Banks Creek	Bulloch	J Bell, W Hodges	1	.	.	.	1	23	1 00	3 00	4
St. Paul	Washington	G Page, H B Davis	3	6	.	.	3	69	2 00	6 00	3
Mt. Pisgah	Bulloch	Toby Bird, J Parish	.	.	.	.	.	9	50	1 50	3
Bethlehem	Emanuel	R Spick, J W Waters	.	.	.	.	.	23	25	2 75	4
Bethel	Bulloch	J Johnson, H Everett	3	.	1	.	1	33	1 50	3 00	.
Eden	Tattnall	G Jackson, W C Duggar	1	.	.	.	.	23	75	2 75	1
Zion Hill	Tattnall	L Kennedy, J Wilkinson	1	.	.	.	1	17	50	4 00	.
New Hope	Bulloch	M Goodman, S Lee	1	.	.	.	.	9	25	1 25	1
Little Flock	Emanuel	J Durden	.	.	.	.	.	6	25	50	.
Powell Grove	Johnson	R L Brown	2	.	.	.	.	9	25	1 25	1

CONSTITUTION.

We, the Primitive churches, were formerly from the Upper and Lower Canoochee Association, met together and composed the Mt. Pleasant Association, viz: Banks Creek, St. Paul, Bethlehem, Mt. Pisgah and Eden. Delegates from these churches met on Friday before the fouth Sunday in Oct. 1887, at Banks Creek Church, and did then and there agree to unite on the following principles:

1, This association shall, if they think proper, meet annually as an advisory council.

2. This association will be composed of messengers from the several churches, so that each church may have two messengers, if they choose, and no more, and the messengers names shall be inserted in their letter.

3. This association shall have power to make its own rules to govern itself, while in session, but none of the rules shall be binding on the churches, for they are free, and of right ought to be.

4. It shall be the duty of this association to give her best advice, in cases of difficulty, and endeavor to keep up a union among the churches and arrange general meetings.

5. The association may admit into its body any church whom they find sound in faith and moral in practice. Also, if any church in our order wishes to withdraw from this body, she may do so at her discretion, or, on application, she may have a letter of dismission.

6. As love of money is the root of all evil, and has produced so much distress among people, and we wishing to live in peace, therefore, this association shall not encourage religious speculations called missionary, or by any other name, under pretence of supporting the gospel.

7. We, the churches composing this association, believing the books of the Old and New Testaments to be the word of God, declare we take them for the rule of our faith and practice.

DECORUM.

1. This association shall open and close with prayer.

2. Those members who are regularly chosen by the churches in our body shall compose the Mt. Pleasant Association. The members thus chosen shall produce letters from their respective churches certifying their appointment, together with the number in fellowship, with those received, excluded or dead since our last Association.

3. This Association shall have a Moderator and Clerk who shall be chosen by the members present, and who shall hold their offices until the next election.

4. It shall be the duty of the Moderator to preserve order, explain and put questions. He shall have the same right of speech as other members, provided the chair be filled, but shall not vote ex-

cept the body be evenly divided.

5. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a fair record of all the proceedings of the Association, and the Minutes then shall be read and amended, if nec essary, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk.

6. Any church applying by letter and delegates for admission who, upon examination, is found orthodox and orderly, shall be received by the Association, manifested by the Moderator giving the right hand of fellowship to its delegates.

7. Each church shall have the right to send only two delegates to the Association.

8. Every question presented to the Association shall be from church authority.

9. Every motion made and seconded shall claim the action of the Association, except withdrawn by the persons making it, with consent of the Association.

10. Every person who speaks in debate shall rise and address the Moderator and shall not be interrupted while speaking, except he depart from the subject.

11. No person shall speak more than three times on the same subject without leave of the Association.

12. There shall be no talking in time of public speech, nor reflection cast upon the speaker.

13. Whenever a case is decided by vote, there shall be no more debating on the subject.

14. No member shall absent himself from the Association without leave from the Moderator.

15. Whereas, there are so many institutions of men, benevolent so-called, and believing it to be our duty to provide for a general union of the churches, we therefore declare non-fellowship with all of them and we will not hold any church in union with us that is connected with all or either of them, or their kindred relations holding them to be unscriptural.

16. It is the duty of this Association to provide for the general union of the churches; to give her best advice in matters of difficulty, and if the union between the sister churches be broken, to inquire into the cause of the breach, and to use her endeavors to remove the difficulty; but if the breach cannot be healed, to withdraw from any church or churches that may be unsound in faith or immoral in practice, until they be reformed.

17. To keep up a correspondence with other Associations of the same faith and order, that a chain of connection may be preserved among the churches.

18. To invite ministers of our faith and order to seats with us.

19. These rules shall be read at every association previous to entering on business.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1 We believe in one true and living God, and that there are three persons in the God-head—Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

2 We believe in the fall of man and his inability to recover himself

3 We believe Jesus Christ to be the Son of God

4 We believe in particular election, effectual calling of the elect and final preservation of the Saints

5 We believe the scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be the word of God

6 We believe that baptism, the Lord's Supper, are ordinances of Jesus Christ and the washing of the Saint's feet, an example, and true believers are the only fit subjects of those ordinances, and, believe the only true mode of baptism is immersion.

7 We believe that no minister has the right to the administration of the ordinances of baptism and the Lord's Supper, only such as are regularly called and come under the imposition of hands by a presbytery

8 We believe in a final judgment in the future state of reward and punishment and that of eternal duration

We believe in a general resurrection of the dead, both of the just and the unjust

COMMUNION MEETINGS AT EACA CHURCH

Banks Creek—4th Sunday in March, June, September, December
St. Paul—3rd Sunday in February, May, August and November
Mt. Pisgah—3rd Sunday in March, June, September and December
Eden—1st Sunday in January, July and October
Bethlehem—4th Sunday in May, August and November
Bethel—2nd Sunday in March, June, September and December
Zion Hill—3rd Sunday in April and September
New Hope—1st Sunday in March, June, September and December

CHURCHES	PASTORS	CLERKS	POST OFFICES
Banks Creek	A. Munerlyn	Z. T. Hodges	Portal, Ga.
St. Paul	J. B. Moseley	I. C. Smith	Bartow, Ga.
Mt. Pisgah	W. Hodges	J. Parish	Parish, Ga.
Bethlehem	J. B. Moseley	J. W. watson	Summertown Ga
Bethel	W. Hodges	H. Moore	Statesboro, Ga.
Zion Hill	A. Jackson	L. Kennedy	Bellville, Ga
New Hope	W. Hodges	H. Groover	Statesboro, Ga.
Eden	A. Eason	W. Dugger	